PATENT APPLICATION/PCT

Serial No. 09/937,238 Atty. Docket No. 702-011472

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Mechteld G. M. RUTTEN **EASY-OPEN PEEL SEAL FOR**

:

International Patent Application

No. PCT/EP00/02751

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Serial No. 09/937,238

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Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

April 4, 2002

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits this Information Disclosure Statement, which includes a completed Form PTO-1449.

> I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on April 4, 2002.

> > Ruth A. Walkup (Typed Name of Person Mailing Paper)

Signature

4/4/02

This application is the United States national phase of PCT Application Serial No. PCT/EP00/02751, filed March 22, 2000. The references listed on Form PTQ-1449 were cited in an International Search Report dated July 21, 2000 for the underlying PCT Application. Copies of the references are not provided as the Notification of Acceptance of Application Under 35 U.S.C. §371 and 37 C.F.R. §1.494 or 1.495, dated February 21, 2002, indicates that copies have been received. A copy of the International Search Report is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

Also enclosed is a copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report for the PCT Application. Please note that the PCT Examiner indicated that the claims meet the international standards of patentability. The claims in the present application are substantially similar to the claims in the PCT application, and should be in condition for allowance.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), no fee is believed to be due with the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement, as it is being submitted before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits. The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. One original and two copies of this Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed.

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